Community Involvement at the Chillum Gasoline and PERC Investigation Site: A Resident's Perspective

Community Involvement Background

- Site Make-up:
 - White-collar, educated community
 - Primarily African-American
 - Mixed demographics (Seniors/Retirees, Professional as well as Blue-collar workers)

Community Involvement Background

- Issues that divided the community:
 - 1. Each block had different concerns
 - 2. Legal representation
 - 3. Influence/disagreement associated with the local citizen's group



- Conflicts with the state
- Presence of cross-jurisdictional contamination (Maryland into DC)
- Contentious relationship with the gasoline company where the spill originated



- Issues of trust with EPA
- Technical complexity of two overlapping plumes (gasoline/PERC)
- Dual EPA program investigation (Waste and Chemical Management and Hazardous Site Cleanup Divisions



A Hotbed of Volatile Circumstances

- Process Issues:
 - 1. Timely response to citizen's requests
 - 2. Misconception of Agency's authority
 - 3. Public meetings, availability sessions, and comment periods etc. were not always a requirement at the site

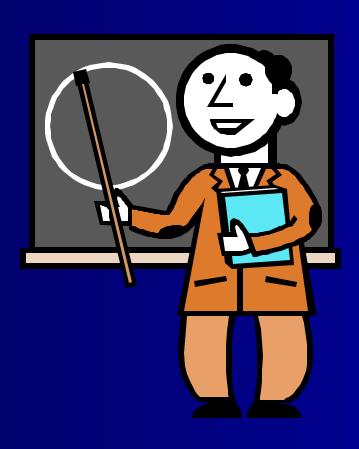


- Process Issues (con't):
 - 4. Issues with technical protocols and data review
 - 5. Wanted EPA to manage the State of MD
 - 6. Misunderstanding of the process

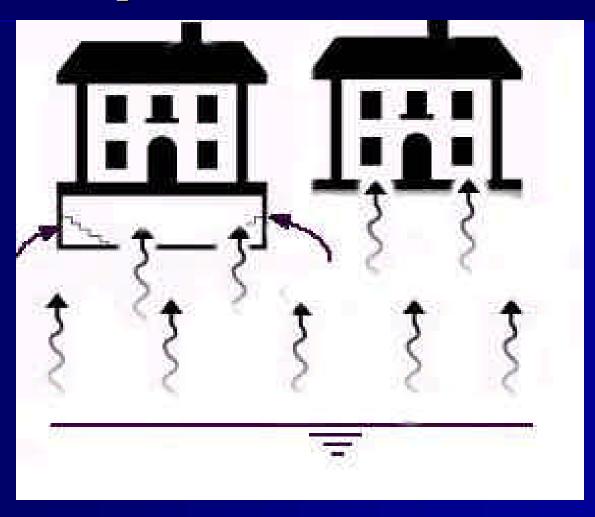
So Many Players are Involved!



Vapor Intrusion Overview



Health Concerns: Vapor Intrusion



Vapor Intrusion Screening

Dry Cleaning – Clothes, curtains, bed spreads

Carpets – new, professionally cleaned

Recent painting

Household cleaning products – Spray cleaners, solvents

Deodorizers

Hobby chemicals – thinners, glues, paints

Household chemicals – oils, solvents

Kerosene heaters

Oil heaters

Gasoline powered equipment

Gasoline cans

Car in attached garage

Smokers

Basement

Floor drain

Sump pump

Cracks in foundation

Gasoline Investigation

The Site

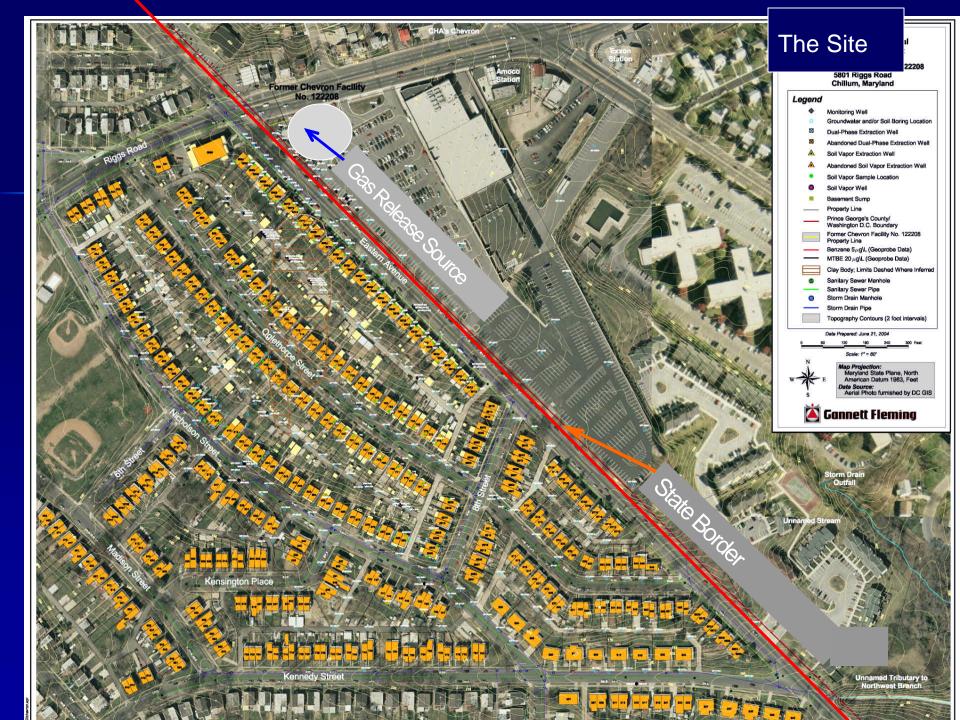


Gasoline Release Source



Mixed Gasoline/PERC Sources





TAGA Screening



Trace Atmospheric Gas Analyzer (TAGA)

Mobile Laboratory

Community Involvement

Challenge in getting the message across.

Very strong Community Group.

 Class action lawsuits and communications.